

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A surface finishing process for building and furnishing articles, obtained from recycled materials, characterized in that said article is subjected to a surface finishing operation by ~~means of a~~ flocking treatment, avoiding any painting, polishing, smoothing and/or similar operations.
2. (original) The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the flocking operation essentially consists of a superficial deposition of natural and/or synthetic fibers or microfibers on the article to be finished, previously coated with adhesive or the like.
3. (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 1 ~~and/or 2~~, characterized in that the flocking operation is carried out by an electrostatic process which uniformly distributes ~~the~~ coating fibers or microfibers on the article to be superficially coated.
4. (currently amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 2, characterized in that the fibers or microfibers ~~used~~ are glossy, semi-glossy, opaque, semi-opaque, transparent, three-lobed and/or semi-transparent.
5. (currently amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 2, characterized in that, to the touch and sight, the coating flock fibers or microfibers have the following characteristics, depending on the length of the fiber or microfiber in use:
 - short fiber → deer skin or alcantara effect;
 - medium-short fiber → plush effect;
 - medium-long fiber → velvet effect;
 - long fiber → fur effect.
6. (currently amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim

- 2, characterized in that the coating flock fibers or microfibers can have any color and length and/or combination of colors and/or lengths.
7. (currently amended) The process as claimed in ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that transparent, semi-transparent, three-lobed and/or translucent fibers or microfibers are fixed on the surface of the article to be coated, previously provided with a decorative pattern, which is then visible through the flocking surface coating, obtaining an ornamental decorative appearance with shaded drawing with effect, for instance, similar to satin, embroidery, pattern and the like.
8. (currently amended) A building and furnishing article, obtained from recycled materials by ~~means of~~ the process as claimed in ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has a surface coating (11', 12', 13'; 21', 22'; 36), formed by a uniform layer of fibers or microfibers fixed to the elements themselves and constituting a covering jacket.
9. (currently amended) The building and furnishing article as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that said covering jacket surface coating (11', 12', 13'; 21', 22'; 36) is constituted by laying natural and/or synthetic fibers or microfibers on its surface, previously coated with adhesive or the like, and this by ~~means of~~ a flocking surface treatment.
10. (currently amended) The building and furnishing article as claimed in claim 8 ~~and/or 9~~, characterized in that said fibers or microfibers are glossy, semi-glossy, opaque, semi-opaque, transparent, semi-transparent, three-lobed.
11. (currently amended) The building and furnishing article as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims from 8 to 10~~ claim 8, characterized in that said covering jacket surface coating of

fibers or microfibers (11', 12', 13'; 21', 22'; 36) exhibits, when touched, the following characteristics, depending on the length of the fiber or microfiber in use:

short fiber or microfiber → deer skin or alcantara effect;

medium-short fiber → plush effect;

medium-long fiber → velvet effect;

long fiber → fur effect.

12. (currently amended) The building and furnishing article as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims from 8 through 11~~ claim 8, characterized in that said covering jacket surface coating of fibers or microfibers (11', 12', 13'; 21', 22'; 36) includes fibers or microfibers of any color and/or lengths, combinations of fibers of different colors and/or lengths being usable as well, to provide an effect of mixed colors and/or lengths.
13. (currently amended) The building and furnishing article as claimed in ~~one or more of the claims from 8 through 12~~ claim 8, characterized in that said covering jacket surface coating is made of transparent, semi-transparent, three-lobed or translucent fibers or microfibers and provides an ornamental decorative effect with shaded drawing, which is previously obtained on the surface to be coated and is visible through said covering jacket surface coating with effect, for instance, similar to satin, embroidery, pattern and the like.